

REMARKS

I. Summary of Office Action

Claims 2-27 were pending in the above-identified application.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings in the application as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.84(p)(4) and 1.84(p)(5).

Claim 23 has been objected to by the Examiner due to an informality in the claim.

The Examiner has rejected claims 2 and 5 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, due to insufficient antecedent basis.

Claims 2-4, 6-7, 10-12, 15-17, 19-20 and 23-25 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Florin et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,621,456 (hereinafter "Florin").

Claims 5 and 18 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin in view of Bennington et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,418,556 (hereinafter "Bennington"). The Examiner has further rejected claims 8, 13, 21 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin. Claims 9, 14, 22 and 27 have yet further been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin in view of Young, U.S. Patent No. 5,727,060 (hereinafter "Young").

II. Summary of Applicants' Reply

Applicants have amended FIGS. 4 and 22, and submit herewith amended sheets of FIGS. 4 and 22. Applicants have also amended the specification to properly reference various elements shown in the figures. Applicants have canceled claims 3, 11, 16 and 24 without prejudice. Applicants have amended claims 2, 7-10, 12-15, 20-23, and 25-27 to more particularly define the invention. No new matter has been added and the amendments are fully supported by the specification. The Examiner's objections and rejections are respectfully traversed.

III. Applicants' Reply to the
Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner objected to the formal drawings as failing to comply with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.84(p)(4) and 1.84(p)(5). Specifically, the Examiner asserted that FIG. 4 failed to comply with 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4) because element 132 appears twice in the figure. FIGS. 21 and 22 have been objected to by the Examiner under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(4) because both figures use the same reference number for different elements. FIG. 11 has been objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.84(p)(5) because element 610 is not referenced in the specification.

Applicants have accordingly amended FIGS. 4 and 22, and submit herewith amended sheets of FIGS. 4

and 22 to replace FIGS. 4 and 22 presently in the application. In FIG. 4, previously labeled element 132 denoting a program cell has been amended to element 134. In FIG. 22, previously labeled element 866 has been amended to element 867. Furthermore, applicants have amended the specification to properly refer to element 867 in FIG. 22.

Applicants have also amended the specification to properly refer to element 610 in FIG. 21. Accordingly, element 610 is now properly referenced in the specification.

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully request that the objections to the formal drawings be withdrawn.

IV. Applicants' Reply to the Objection to Claim 23

The Examiner objected to independent claim 23 for claiming a "system method." Applicants have accordingly amended claim 23 to recite a "system," and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

V. Applicants' Reply to the Rejections to the Claims under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected claims 2 and 15 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as having insufficient antecedent basis for the claimed "navigation icon." Applicants have accordingly amended claims 2

and 15 to recite a "navigation cell" for which there is proper antecedent basis, and respectfully request that the rejections to these claims be withdrawn.

VI. Applicants' Reply to the Rejections to the Claims under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(e) and 103(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 2, 4, 6-7, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19-20, 23 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Florin. The Examiner also rejected claims 5 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin in view of Bennington. The Examiner further rejected claims 8, 13, 21 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin. Claims 9, 14, 22 and 27 were yet further rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Florin in view of Young. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Florin generally refers to an interactive audio-visual ("A/V") transceiver that may be connected to various A/V devices and a corresponding remote control device to communicate with the A/V transceiver. The remote control device allows for the selection of program and service sources, the selection of program and service offerings from any selected source, the viewing of selected program offerings, and the interaction with selected service offerings. See Florin, abstract.

A. Claims 2, 4-9, 15 and 17-22

Applicants' independent claims 2 and 15, as amended, are directed to a method and system for navigating a program guide. In particular, a program guide is presented to the user. The program guide comprises a program grid having a plurality of cells arranged in rows and at least one column. At least one of the cells in the program grid corresponds to a navigation cell that may be selected by the user. The navigation cell is a cell within the program grid that includes at least one navigation point. A navigation point corresponds to menu shortcut choices that may provide a user with shortcuts for navigating within the program guide. The remainder of the cells in the program grid corresponds to program information cells. In response to a user selection of the navigation cell, the program guide navigates to the navigation point.

Applicants respectfully submit that Florin does not show or suggest a program grid having a plurality of cells arranged in rows and at least one column in which at least one of the cells in the program grid corresponds to a navigation cell that may be selected by the user, and the remaining cells in the program grid correspond to program information cells, as required by applicants' claims 2 and 15. Rather, Florin shows a "categories overlay panel" that is superimposed over the window of

displayed program listings. The "categories overlay panel" includes icons corresponding to categories of programs that may be selected by the user. As a result, the "categories overlay panel" in Florin clearly is not part of the same generated program grid for display in the program guide as the window of displayed program listings. See, e.g., Florin, FIGS. 22 and 28; col. 18, ll. 13-21; and col. 19, ll. 4-25.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent claims 2 and 15 are in condition for allowance. Claims 4-9, which depend from independent claim 2, and claims 17-22, which depend from independent claim 15, are therefore also in condition for allowance.

B. Claims 10, 12-14, 23 and 25-27

Applicants' independent claims 10 and 23, as amended, are directed to a method and system for navigating a program guide. In particular, a program guide having a program guide menu and a program grid is presented to a user. The program grid includes program schedule information. The program guide menu includes a plurality of navigation points that may be selected by the user. Each of the plurality of navigation points corresponds to a different display mode for displaying the program schedule information presented in the program grid. In response to a user selection of a selected one

of the plurality of navigation points corresponding to a selected display mode, the program schedule information in the selected display mode is displayed.

Applicants respectfully submit that Florin does not show or suggest a plurality of navigation points in a program guide menu that each correspond to a different display mode for displaying the program schedule information presented in the program grid of the program guide, as required by applicants' claims 10 and 23. Instead, Florin shows that a user may select from a "categories overlay panel" a category icon that causes program listings corresponding to a particular program category (e.g., "all", "favorites", "movies", "sports", "news", "music" categories) to be displayed. Selection of a program category may cause additional icons corresponding to subcategories of the selected program category to be displayed in the "category overlay panel." A further user selection of a subcategory icon causes a subset of program listings from the selected category that correspond only to the selected subcategory to be displayed. Therefore, the program listings displayed in response to each category and subcategory selection merely correspond to those program listings that meet that selection. See, e.g., Florin, FIGS. 22-32; col. 18, ll. 9-34; and col. 19, ll. 4-25.

For at least the foregoing reasons, independent

claims 10 and 23 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 12-14, which depend from independent claim 10, and claims 25-27, which depend from independent claim 23, are therefore also in condition for allowance.

VII. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, applicants respectfully submits that this application, as amended, is now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and prompt allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn C. Mak
Evelyn C. Mak
Registration No. 50,492
Attorney for Applicants

Fish & Neave IP Group
Ropes & Gray LLP
Customer No. 1473
1251 Avenue of the Americas
New York, New York 10020-1105
(212) 596-9000

Application No. 09/770,865
Amendment dated January 20, 2005
Reply to July 20, 2004 Office Action

Appendix

Attachments: Annotated Drawing Sheets Showing Changes
Replacement Drawing Sheets

Amendments to the Drawings

The attached sheets of drawings in the Appendix include changes to FIGS. 4 and 22. These sheets, which include replacement sheets of FIGS. 4 and 22, replace the originally filed drawing sheets for FIGS. 4 and 22. In particular, in FIG. 4, previously labeled element 132 denoting a program cell has been amended to element 134. In FIG. 22, previously labeled element 866 has been amended to element 867.

100	Feb 09	106	7:00 PM	104	7:30 PM	104	8:00 PM	104
108	14	110	(* *) ROBIN HOOD: MEN IN TIGHTS (1999)	122	POINT OF IMPACT (1)	128		
112	HBO							
112	15	110	FLY BY NIGHT (1993 Drama) (R)	130				
112	MAX							
132	16	110	FLY BY NIGHT (1993 Drama) (R) (CC)	132	FLY BY NIGHT (1993 Drama) (R) (CC)	132		
132	ENCORE							
132	18	110	(* *) ANGIE (1994 Drama) (R)	130				
132	SHOW							
132	21	110	LASSIE (Adv) (PG)	134	BLOWN AWAY (Sus)	134		
132	REQ							
132	22	110	MAC (Drama) (R) (CC)	134		134		
132	STARZ							
124							1:27:55	126
124							MENU	

